Attack on people of Indian origin in South Africa

1937. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:WilJ the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the report about attacks on the life and property of the people of Indian origin in Natal province of South Africa by tribal elements after the release of Dr. Mandela; and

(b) if so, what steps Government are taking to contain such incidents in future ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJ-RAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The violence reported in the Kwazulu homeland in the Natal area is not primarily directed against South Africans of Indian origin, but is a product of the conflict between the lnkatha party of the Zulus and the broader based United Democratic Front. The root cause of this conflict between two largely Black parties is the apartheid system itself. The Government of India has supported continued international pressure on South Africa by means of sanctions and boycott, until steps towards dismantlement of apartheid are taken by the South African Government. This will lead to lessening of communal tensions and enable the resolution of internal conflicts.

Indian Expenditure on Transport of Chief Minister of North Eastern Council in Sri Lanka

1938. SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AF FAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that IAF aircrafts were used to transport the fleeing Chief Minister of North Eastern Council in Sri Lanka and his officials to an unknown destination in India;

(b) if so, the destination thereof;

(c) whether all expenditure for their stay would be met by Government;

(d) whether he will be staying here as the leader of the "Independent Eelam" which he "Proclaimed" a few days ago; and

(e) whether it will not tantamount to the recognition of "Independent Eelam" of Perumal by India?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJ-RAL): (a) snd (b) One aircraft brought 277 Sri Lankan Refugees to Orissa, in addition to 1335 refugees brought by two ships. Chief Minister of the North-Eastern Council is not in India.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No, Sir. Government of India supports the unity and integrity of Sri Lanka, and has never supported any call for any Eelam in any form.

Development and Modernisation of Post Offices in Distt. Farrukhabad in Uttar Pradesh

1939. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the strength of staff in Kaimganj, Farrukhabad, Kamal-ganj Chhibramau, Gursahai Ganj and Kannauj post offices in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether it is a fact that the post offises in District Farrukhabad have not been developed and modernised since long;